

HCoC

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HCoC ?**

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What is the HCoC?

The HCoC is an acronym for the Hague Code of Conduct against widely subscribed multilateral instrument that aims to delegitimize a set of general principles, modest commitments, and limited conf

When was the HCoC founded?

The HCoC was formally brought into effect on November 25, 2002 in The Netherlands in The Hague.

What are its main objectives?

The HCoC aims to contribute to the process of strengthening arrangements and disarmament and non-proliferation objectives: need to prevent and curb the proliferation of ballistic missile systems, destruction, as well as the importance of strengthening, and disarmament and non-proliferation mechanisms. To meet the maximum possible restraint in the development, testing, and carrying weapons of mass destruction.

Is the HCoC endorsed by the United Nations (UN)?

The UN General Assembly adopted on December 3, 2004, the adoption of the HCoC and calling on states that have not adhered to the HCoC. The Code's importance and relevance was reaffirmed by the UN General Assembly in 2008 in a new resolution (A/Res/63/64). The last UN General Assembly resolution adopted in 2010 (A/Res/65/73) by a recorded vote of 162 UN Member States.

What is the relevance of the HCoC to Missile Technology

The HCoC complements the important, ongoing work of the members of the MTCR are encouraged to join the HCoC, which remains Code universally accepted.

How many countries belong to the HCoC?

As of September 2011, 134 countries have subscribed to the HCoC.

What countries can subscribe to the HCoC: How does a country subscribe?

Participation in the HCoC is voluntary and open to all states. A country may subscribe sending a diplomatic note stating that it wishes to become an HCoC Subscribing State to the Ministry, which serves as the Immediate Central Contact (ICC) for the HCoC.

What are the members' obligations to the HCoC, financial or otherwise?

The HCoC is a political commitment that is open to all countries' voluntary subscription.

By subscribing to the HCoC, members voluntarily commit themselves politically to provide notifications (PLNs) on ballistic missile and space-launch vehicle launches (SLVs) and test flight states also commit to submit an annual declaration (AD) of their country's policies on ballistic space-launch vehicles, including annual information on the number and generic class of ballistic space launch vehicles launched during the preceding year. The HCoC does not require a financial contribution as there are no assessed contributions or other monetary costs of subscribing.

Where and when do HCoC meetings take place?

The HCoC's decision-making body, the Regular Meeting, normally convenes annually for two weeks in Vienna, Austria. For further information on the Regular Meeting visit <http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/ODAPublications/Yearbook/index.shtml>

Who leads the HCoC? Is there a Chairman or Permanent Point of Contact?

The annual Regular Meeting is chaired on a rotating basis. The Chair of this meeting becomes the Chair for the period extending to the next Regular Meeting of Subscribing States. France was Chair from May 2010-May 2011. Romania was elected HCoC Chair beginning in May 2011. At the 2011 Meeting the Republic of Korea was elected HCoC Chair for 2012/2013.

Austria on a permanent basis serves as Immediate Central Contact (Executive Secretariat) and in this capacity also coordinates the information exchange of the HCoC.

Who has Chaired the HCoC in the past?

The following countries have served as HCoC Chair:

2002-2003 The Netherlands

2003-2004 Chile

2004-2005 Chile

2005-2006 The Philippines

2006-2007 Morocco

2007-2008 Bosnia and Herzegovina

2008-2009 Hungary

2009-2010 Costa Rica

2010–2011 France

2011-2012 Romania

2012-2013 Republic of Korea

Source: Austrian Foreign Ministry, <http://www.bmeia.gv.at/>

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